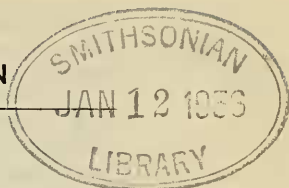


PROCEEDINGS
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TWO NEW JERBOAS FROM EGYPT

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Collections of mammals from Egypt are being studied to determine the taxonomic status and geographic distribution of the various species within the confines of that country. As a result of this study, two subspecies of jerboas are found to differ from previously named kinds.

The specimens on which the following descriptions are based have been made available for study by the U. S. Naval Medical Research Unit No. 3 of Cairo, and by the authorities of the Chicago Natural History Museum. All measurements are in millimeters and the capitalized color terms are from Ridgway's *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature*.

Jaculus jaculus elbaensis subsp. nov.

Type.—Chicago Natural History Museum, number 82295, adult male, skin and skull, from Wadi Darawena, (36° 22' E, 22° 11' N) Jebel Elba, Sudan Government Administrative Area, Egypt. Obtained 9 March 1954 by Makram Kaiser, original number 10084 of Harry Hoogstraal.

Specimens examined.—Fifteen, from: *Sudan Government Administrative Area*, Bir Sarrara, 1; Wadi Darawena, Jebel Elba, 1; 3 mi. N Jebel Elba, 1; 2½ mi. N Jebel Elba, 5; *Eastern Desert Governorate*, Bir Abra, 6; Wadi Na'am, 1.

Diagnosis.—General overall dorsal coloration Clay Color. Individual hairs plumbeous at base, banded with Cinnamon-Buff, and finely tipped with black. Entire underparts, hip stripe, dorsal surfaces of hands and feet, and tip of tail pure white. Length of tail, hind foot and ear about normal for the species. Skull with auditory bullae markedly inflated posteriorly. Top of skull not domed; rostrum wide; zygomatic arches rather massive; upper incisors broad and anteroposteriorly thickened; palate broad.

Measurements of the type specimen.—Total length 276; length of tail 178; length of hind foot 63; length of ear 22; greatest length of skull 33.0; condyloincisive length 28.2; crown length of upper molariform toothrow 4.6; greatest breadth across anterior zygomatic processes 23.3; least interorbital breadth 11.8; median length of nasals 12.2; breadth of rostrum at level of antorbital foramen 4.9; greatest breadth of braincase 23.1.

Comparisons.—From *Jaculus jaculus butleri*, which is the subspecies closest geographically, *J. j. elbaensis* differs in brighter color in comparable pelages, larger size, markedly larger skull in all respects, particularly a greater posterior inflation of the auditory bullae, shorter

space between the hard palate and the ventral anterior inflation of the auditory bullae, markedly larger upper incisors, wider rostrum, and somewhat larger upper molars.

From *Jaculus jaculus jaculus*, as known from Giza Province, *Jaculus jaculus elbaensis* differs in somewhat darker color, (with more admixture of red). The skull of *elbaensis* is larger, the auditory bullae more inflated posteriorly, the anterior palatine foramina larger, the upper incisors larger, the upper molars larger, and the space between the hard palate and the ventral anterior inflation of the auditory bullae shorter.

Remarks.—The specimen from Wadi Na'am shows intergradation in color between *J. j. jaculus* and *J. j. elbaensis*. In addition, the cranium of this specimen also shows characters which can be interpreted as intergradation in the degree of inflation of the auditory bullae, the distance between the hard palate and the ventral anterior inflation of the auditory bullae, and in the degree of doming of the skull. In the majority of the characters studied this specimen seems nearer to *J. j. elbaensis* and is so referred.

No intergradation can be demonstrated, as yet, between *J. j. butleri* and *J. j. elbaensis*.

Jaculus jaculus favillus subsp. nov.

Type.—Chicago Natural History Museum, no. 75708, adult female, skin and skull, from Bir Bosslanga, Salum, Western Desert Governorate, Egypt. Obtained 25 October 1953 by Harry Hoogstraal, original number 9718.

Specimens examined.—Five, from: *Western Desert Governorate*, Bir Bosslanga, 1; Mersa Matruh, 1, Sidi Barrani, 3.

Diagnosis.—Upper parts, in general overall color, near Buckthorn Brown, hairs banded with pure color near Tawny Olive. All hairs plumbeous at base and rather broadly tipped with black. Hind foot relatively long and broad. Skull large; auditory bullae markedly inflated both ventrally and posteriorly; rostrum broad; dorsal surface of skull rather more arched than usual.

Measurements of the type specimen.—Total length 296; length of tail 181; length of hind foot 64; length of ear 26; greatest length of skull 34.0; condyloincisive length 29.9; greatest breadth across anterior zygomatic processes 23.0; least interorbital breadth 12.6; median length of nasals 11.8; breadth of rostrum at level of antorbital foramen 5.0; greatest breadth of braincase 23.5.

Comparisons.—*Jaculus jaculus favillus* may be distinguished from *J. j. jaculus*, as known from Abu Ghâlib, Giza Province, by its darker color, longer hind foot and longer ear. The skulls of *favillus* may be differentiated by markedly larger size, more pronounced inflation of the auditory bullae, wider rostrum, and generally longer anterior palatine foramina.

Remarks.—This subspecies apparently represents an eastward extension of the Libyan fauna into extreme western Egypt where the influence of the more humid sections of the Mediterranean littoral is exerted on numerous other kinds of animals and plants, many of which are stopped in their eastward range by the harsh conditions existing in the Egyptian deserts.